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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/776,423	02/11/2004	Suryanarayana Murthy Gorty	ID-487 (80224)	2891

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CHRISTOPHER F. REGAN, ESQUIRE
ALLEN, DYER, DOPPELT, MILBRATH & GILCHRIST, P.A.
P.O. Box 3791
Orlando, FL 32802-3791

EXAMINER

KEEFER, MICHAEL E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2154

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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04/15/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/776,423	Applicant(s) GORTY, SURYANARAYANA MURTHY	
	Examiner MICHAEL E. KEEFER	Art Unit 2154	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 January 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 42-55 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 42-55 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is responsive to the Amendment filed 1/14/2008. Claims 1-41 are cancelled, claims 42-55 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 44 and 52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The term "gateway window" is indefinite and confusing. Even after consulting Applicant's specification, the Examiner can find no definition of this term, or some sort of explanation of what functionality a 'gateway window' would impart. One of ordinary skill in the art would not readily be able to determine what a 'gateway window' is based off of the specification, in networking, a window is usually either a) a space of time in which something can happen or b) a GUI item on a screen. It is unclear that Applicant intends for either or neither of these definitions to apply to the word "gateway".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
5. Claims, 42-44 and 46-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Smith et al. (US 20010029524), hereafter Smith.

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Regarding **claim 42**, Smith discloses:

A system that provides configuration data for a web service for remotely accessing electronic mail from the web service, comprising:

a user system that comprises a plurality of electronic mail (email) clients for accessing a respective plurality of source mailboxes, said user system further comprising a source of mailbox configuration data corresponding to the configuration parameters required to configure access to the plurality of source mailboxes; (fig. 1, 100 contains mailbox configuration data, 140 and 142 also 150 and 152.)

a web service that can be configured to allow a user to access the plurality of source mailboxes; and (email applications 170 172)

a configuration module operative with the user system and web service for automatically retrieving configuration parameters from the source of mailbox configuration data and transmitting said configuration parameters to the web service for allowing the web service to be configured to access the plurality of source mailboxes without user intervention, (module 120, which receives configuration information 140, 142, 150, and 152 and then uses that information to access the email accounts using the applications 170 and 172)

said configuration module comprising an import module having a plurality of mailbox import agents corresponding to the respective email clients at the user agent for retrieving mailbox configuration data from the source of mailbox configuration data at the user system and generating respective configuration data objects for each respective mailbox based

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on the configuration parameters, and (module 120, which receives configuration information 140, 142, 150, and 152 and then uses that information to access the email accounts using the applications 170 and 172)

a web service interface module for interfacing with the web service through the web service. (an interface module between applications 170 and 172 and the module 120 is inherent, or else the modules would not be able to communicate with each other.)

Regarding **claim 43**, Smith discloses:

wherein a web service comprises an internet service provider (ISP) that uses configuration data for accessing electronic mail from another internet service provider. (Fig. 1, universal mail application 100 provides an internet service that allows user 190 to access email at other mail service providers)

Regarding **claim 44**, Smith discloses:

wherein a mailbox comprises a gateway window that uses configuration data on-the-fly for accessing an electronic mailbox. ([0037] discloses using configuration data on the fly)

Regarding **claim 46**, Smith discloses:

wherein said user system comprises a web browser or email client. (system 100 is an email client, because it is being used to access and deliver email)

Regarding **claim 47**, Smith discloses:

wherein said user system comprises a personal computer or mobile communications device. (system 100 is a personal computer)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

7. Claims 45, 48, and 49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith in view of DeBusk et al. (US 2001/0016821), hereafter DeBusk.

Smith discloses all the limitations of claims 45, 48, and 49 except for the use of component object modules, distributed object modules, and ActiveX controls.

The general concept of implementing a configuration module as an ActiveX component object module (i.e. a distributed object module) is well known in the art as taught by Debusk. ([0064] teaches the use of ActiveX components in a system which gathers medical information about patients.)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Smith with the general concept of implementing a configuration module as an ActiveX component object module (i.e. a distributed object module) as taught by Debusk in order to provide encapsulated reusable functionality.

8. Claims 50-55 recite substantially the same limitations as claims 42-49 and are rejected for the same reasons as cited above.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments filed 1/14/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The Examiner has described in the above rejections how Smith maps to the new claims presented by Applicant. As a note about Applicant's arguments in the last paragraph of page 8; even if Smith did not 'automatically without user intervention' retrieve information (which the Examiner still contends that Smith does this automatically), automating a previously manual process is per se obvious. See MPEP 2144.04 section III. .

10. The Examiner invites Applicant to contact the Examiner for an interview prior to the submission of amended claims to ensure that the new claims (or claim amendments) overcome the the art of record.

Conclusion

11. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will

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the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL E. KEEFER whose telephone number is (571)270-1591. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 9am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan Flynn can be reached on (571) 272-1915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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/Joseph E. Avellino/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2146